Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7252

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

CONFIDENTIAL PARIS 34342

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR BW FR GW US UK

SUBJECT: QUADRIPARTITE MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE: FRENCH OBJECTIONS TO GERMAN DRAFT.

- 1. QUAI DIRECTOR CENTRAL EUROPEAN AFFAIRS PLAISANT CALLED TODAY IN SOME AGITATION TO ASK EMBASSY TO DRAW DEPARTMENT'S AND EMBASSY BONN'S ATTENTION TO QUAI'S EARNEST OBJECTIONS TO PARA 4 OF FRG DRAFT COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE FOR QUADRIPARTITE MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE.
- 2. FRENCH COHCERN FOCUSES ON ASSERTION IN FRG DRAFT THAT THE QA IS PART OF A "LARGER EQUILIBRIUM OF INTERESTS WHICH INCLUDE IN PARTICULAR THE FRG'S TREATIES WITH THE USSR, POLAND, CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE GDR;" THAT IT WAS THIS "EQUILIBRIUM OF INTERESTS" WHICH, TO A LARGE CONFIDENTIAL

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EXTENT, HAS MADE THE DEVELOPMENT OF DETENTE POSSIBLE IN

EUROPE; AND THAT UNILATERAL EFFORTS TO INTERPRET "ONE OF ITS COMPONENTS" (I.E., THE QA) RESTRICTIVELY COULD SERIOUSLY WEAKEN THIS BALANCE.

- 3. PLAISANT ARGUES THAT FRG TEXT OVERLOOKS OTHER IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL UNDERTAKINGS, SUCH AS CSCE, WHICH ALSO AFFECT DETENTE, NOT TO MENTION EQUALLY IMPORTANT BILATERAL RELATIONS OF FRANCE, UK AND US WITH THE EAST. FRG DRAFT ALSO OVERLOOKS FACT THAT EASTERN COUNTRIES CITED CONSIDER WESTERN ALLIES IN VIOLATION OF THE QA, AND WILL NECESSARILY REJECT WESTERN REFERENCES TO "UNILATERAL RESTRICTIVE INTERPRETATIONS OF THE QA." WHILE PLAISANT DID NOT SAY SO SPECIFICALLY, IT WAS CLEAR THAT QUAI'S BASIC DISTRESS WAS OVER IMPLICATION OF FRG DRAFT THAT QA WOULD HENCEFORTH BE SEEN AS PART OF LARGER FRAMEWORK OF FRG'S RELATIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, SO DOWNPLAYING ROLE OF FRANCE, AND ITS TWO WESTERN ALLIES IN BERLIN AND GERMAN CONTEXTS.
- 4. FRENCH COUNTERDRAFT CONFINES ITSELF TO STRESS MINISTERS PLACE ON STRICT APPLICATION OF THE QA. WE ASSUME BONN HAS TWO DRAFTS. IF NOT, CAN CABLE TEXTS PROMPTLY WHICH PLAISANT HAS JUST SENT OVER TO US. GAMMON

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